

REMARKS

Claims 7, 8, 15 and 17 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 7 and the title are amended. Support for the amendment to claim 7 can be found, for example, in paragraph [0054] of the originally filed specification. No new matter is added.

The Office Action objects to the title for alleging not being descriptive. By this Amendment, an even more descriptive title is provided. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

The Office Action rejects claims 7, 8, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Sterzel (U.S. Patent No. 4,828,941). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

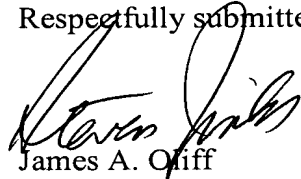
Claim 7 recites "the catalyst is bound by the anion exchange resin in the cathode catalyst layer." Sterzel fails to disclose these features because Sterzel discloses adhering carbon black, a catalyst, and PTFE (if necessary) to a conductive material, specifically a metal net, to form a porous electrode. Then Sterzel's anionic exchange resin is adhered to or forms a layer on this porous electrode. See, for example, Sterzel at col. 3, lines 32-50 and col. 5, lines 43-50. Thus, Sterzel fails to disclose the above quoted features of claim 7.

Claims 8, 15 and 17 are patentable by reason of their dependency from independent claim 7, as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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